

IN THE CLAIMS:



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Please cancel claims 4, 7 and 8, without prejudice as follows.

Please amend claims 1, 5, 12, 13, 14, and 15, as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended).

A method for detecting a pathogenic or any other condition of an organism comprising the steps of

taking a sample, and said sample being a body fluid sample from said organism selected from the group consisting of hemofiltrate, ascitic fluid and urine;

wherein said organism is selected from the group consisting of animals and humans;

measuring peptides from said sample of said organism containing high-molecular weight peptides and low-molecular weight peptides, as an indication of the pathogenic or any other condition of said organism;

wherein said low-molecular weight peptides, used for said measurement have a molecular weight of not more than 30,000 Dalton;

directly detecting said low molecular weight peptides by MALDI mass spectrometry; and wherein all low molecular weight peptides present in the sample which can be detected by MALDI mass spectrometry are detected; and

relating said low molecular weight peptides to a reference; and

7² said reference comprises a distribution of low-molecular weight peptides in a representative cross-section of defined controls to produce a differential peptide display.

Claim 2. (Previously Cancelled).

Claim 3. (Previously Cancelled).

Claim 4. (Cancelled).

Claim 5. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim 3 1,
wherein it is possible to detect single peptides directly by a measuring technique, to detect several peptides by a measuring

technique or even all the low molecular weight peptides present in the sample which can be detected by a measuring technique; and

wherein said low-molecular weight peptides used for said measurement have a molecular weight of from 100 to 10,000 Dalton.

Claim 6. (Previously Amended).

The method according to claim 1,

wherein said high-molecular weight peptides are separated off prior to measurement of said low-molecular weight peptides, or left unconsidered, in terms of measurement or evaluation, in the recording of the sample.

72 Claim 7. (Cancelled).

Claim 8. (Cancelled).

Claim 9. (Previously Amended).

The method according to claim 1,

wherein said sample is divided into different fractions prior to said measurement of the low-molecular weight peptides, and the fractions are measured under different conditions.



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Claim 10. (Previously Cancelled).

Claim 11. (Previously Amended).

The method according to claim 1, wherein said sample is selected from the group consisting of a genetically engineered organism, a genetically transformed organism, and a conditioned organism.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended).

72 The method according to claim 1, wherein the detecting of a pathogenic or any other ~~the~~ condition of the organism serves for examining and recording the overall condition of the organism in order to reveal any deviations from a reference condition.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended).

The method according to claim ~~1~~, 11, wherein the detecting of the condition of a transformed organism serves for examining and recording the overall condition of the organism in order to reveal any changes of the transformed organism for revealing the occurrence of peptides connected with the transformation which are related to metabolic changes.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended).

A method for detecting a pathogenic or any other condition of an organism comprising the steps of

taking a sample, and said sample being a body fluid sample from said organism selected from the group consisting of hemofiltrate, ascitic fluid and urine;

wherein said organism is selected from the group consisting of animals and humans;

measuring peptides from said sample of said organism containing high-molecular weight peptides and low-molecular weight peptides, as an indication of the pathogenic or any other condition of said organism;

wherein said low-molecular weight peptides, used for said measurement have a molecular weight of not more than 30,000 Dalton;

removing high-molecular weight peptides;

directly detecting said low-molecular weight peptides by chromatography; and wherein all low-molecular weight peptides present in the sample which can be detected by chromatography are detected; and

relating said low-molecular weight peptides to a reference;
and

said reference comprises a distribution of low-molecular weight peptides in a representative cross-section of defined controls to produce a differential peptide display.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended).

A method for detecting a pathogenic or any other condition of an organism comprising the steps of

taking a sample, and said sample being a body fluid sample from said organism selected from the group consisting of blood, hemofiltrate, ascitic fluid and urine;

wherein said organism is selected from the group consisting of animals and humans;

measuring peptides from said sample of said organism containing high-molecular weight peptides and low-molecular weight peptides, as an indication of the pathogenic or any other condition of said organism;

wherein said low-molecular weight peptides, used for said measurement have a molecular weight of not more than 30,000 Dalton;

directly detecting said low-molecular weight peptides by mass spectrometry; and wherein all low-molecular weight peptides present in the sample which can be detected by mass spectrometry are detected; and

relating said low-molecular weight peptides to a reference;
and

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said reference comprises a distribution of low-molecular weight peptides in a representative cross-section of defined controls to produce a differential peptide display.
